

What is claimed is:

1. An adjusting method for centering an earth electrode at a center electrode of a spark gap of a spark plug, comprising the steps of:
 - 5 illuminating said spark plug from a front of a surface of an end tip of said earth electrode;
picking up a reflected image of said spark gap;
calculating a center of the tip surface of said earth electrode and axis of said center electrode on the basis of
10 said reflected image;
moving said earth electrode toward said axis;
measuring a positional difference between said axis of said center electrode and center of said earth electrode
15 along a direction perpendicular to said axis of said center electrode.
2. The adjusting method according to claim 1, wherein said center of said earth electrode is an area centroid of said reflected image of said earth electrode.
3. The adjusting method according to claim 1,
20 wherein said moving step moves said earth electrode by a displacement including a prescribed spring-back.
4. The adjusting method according to claim 1, wherein all of the steps are repeated, if said positional difference is not within a prescribed tolerance.
- 25 5. The adjusting method according to claim 1, wherein said illuminating step or picking-up step is preceded by a chucking step for chucking said spark plug.